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English-Language Journal of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), No. 121, August 2021

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Picture on the Cover: Mass protests in Teheran in 2009 (Source: Wikipedia, https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/4/4f/Tehran_protest_%281%29.jpg)

Revolutionary Communism is the monthly English-language journal published by the *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT). The RCIT has sections and activists in Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, South Korea, Pakistan, Kashmir, Sri Lanka, Yemen, Israel / Occupied Palestine, Russia, Nigeria, Britain, Germany, and Austria.

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Hunger Revolt in South Africa

It is not about Zuma (anymore) – get the spontaneous protest organized!

Statement by the International Bureau of the RCIT and the Revolutionary Socialist Vanguard (RCIT in Nigeria), 15 July 2021

1. Just 5 days ago protests started in South Africa against the arrest and imprisonment of Jacob Zuma, the corrupt former president of the country who has not only implemented a capitalist, tribalist policy during his presidency. He is also a known rapist and while he portrayed himself as anti-imperialist it is anything but surprising that the current corruption case on court is based on accusation of bribery by the French defence firm Thales. Authentic revolutionaries have not supported and therefore also not participated in the protests by pro-Zuma activists. Incidents like the xenophobe attacks on Somali migrants strengthened this sentiment. However, the initial character of the protests has changed. This is not about Zuma anymore. This, comrades, brothers, and sisters – is a hunger revolt and revolutionaries must support the poor mass elements on the streets! The spark might not have been progressive, but the fire has the potential to become so.

2. The COVID-19 pandemic was utilized by bourgeois governments all around the world to cover the deep recession (the Greater Depression), which already started in autumn 2019, and to enforce bonapartist attacks. South Africa was under lockdown several times, with stage 4 category of the lockdown regime in power since the end of June and prolonged just 4 days ago. It means a curfew between 9pm in the evening and 4am in the morning, closed schools and universities, prohibition of any gatherings that are not work-related, including political, social, and religious events except for funerals. Public transport, hotels and alike can only be used to get to work and for buying of necessities like food and medicine. Selling and consuming of alcohol in public is prohibited as well. Capitalist production and businesses, however, have not been limited.

3. The bonapartist measures are justified by the government by the death toll of 65,595 deaths by Corona since

the beginning of the pandemic and the spread of the new mutation Delta. Nobody can seriously argue that the corona virus cannot make people sick enough to die. However, South Africa is an excellent example how the reactionary lockdown policy causes more misery than the pandemic itself. First, authentic revolutionaries should be clear that the measures are not implemented in order to really fight against the pandemic. South Africa is the leading country when it comes to deaths by tuberculosis. Every year, tens of thousands die because of tuberculosis! In the year 2019 there were approximately 58,000 deaths (in a range of 35,000 to 91,000). Vaccine against tuberculosis was invented already in 1921 but the infections with tuberculosis have increased by 20% in South Africa in the years before 2019. No mass vaccination program, no lockdown or social distance measure has been enforced for an illness that has caused a much larger number of deaths in the past. Clearly, there are other motives for the lockdowns than health concerns!

4. Furthermore, due to the lockdown policy more than 2 million people have lost their jobs in 2020 alone. This is happening in a country, in which the richest 20% control 70% of wealth and the top 10% get more than half of national income – and this was the case already before the Greater Depression started! No wonder that the poor masses are using the opportunity to raid stores, grabbing foods and various items during these days. What a bigotry to call them to stop and miscredit them as looters when the biggest capitalist robbers are controlling most of the country's resources since decades!

5. Authentic Revolutionaries have now to take side with the poor masses on the streets. It is not about Zuma anymore. It has turned into a hunger revolt, with 117 people killed and more than 2,200 people arrested. Such a revolt is not a planned political protest, well organized by



RCIT AFRICA PROGRAM

Manifesto for the Revolutionary Liberation of Black Africa

Adopted at the 2nd World Congress of the RCIT in November 2017

Introduction * Foreign Exploiters – Out of Africa! * The Wealth to Those Who Create It! Economic Freedom Now! * Down with the Capitalist Dictatorships and Corrupt Pseudo-Democracies! * Organize the Workers and Oppressed for the Mass Struggle! * For a Government of Workers and Poor Peasants! For a Socialist Revolution! * For Pan-African Unity! For the United Socialist States of Africa! * For a United Front of Struggle! Overcome the Crisis of Leadership – Build a Revolutionary Party Nationally and Internationally! * Appendix

A RCIT Pamphlet, 24 pages, A5 Format

political activists. It is rather a spontaneous outburst for the basic needs of the poor masses that have been ignored for so long. Just remember the spontaneous hunger revolts when the recession started in 2008-09. This time, the recession starting 2019 is not only more severe than ten years ago, but even deeper than the Great Depression. The new virus offered a welcome possibility for the ruling class to cover this historic crisis of capitalism and to blame a pandemic for the unavoidable consequences of capitalism's own making.

6. The hunger revolt in South Africa today is a very important struggle against the results of the bonapartist reactionary lockdown policy as well as against the still existing elements of Apartheid and the deepest recession since a century. Comrades, brothers, and sisters, this politically raw event is one of many to come and a test for authentic revolutionaries. The RCIT and our Argentinean comrades from *Convergencia Socialista* have explained repeatedly that the capitalist lockdown policy is thoroughly reactionary and must be strongly opposed. In a situation like the current one, it is most urgent that the outburst of popular anger is transformed into organized mass action! The individual needs that the poor masses are trying to meet by the hunger revolt must be turned into popular mass struggle because only in this way the collective needs can be met as well. Hence the task is not to stop the revolt. **The main task now is to turn the hunger revolt into an organized popular uprising!**

7. The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) and its section in Nigeria, the *Revolutionary Socialist Vanguard*, call all authentic revolutionaries in South Africa to organize rallies on the streets against the lockdown policy. Support the poor masses by defending them against the attacks of police and military forces by organizing armed self-defence units of the workers and oppressed. Help the small shop owners to be spared by the events by guiding the poor masses to focus the hunger revolt on the bigger corporations, supermarket chains, banks, and casinos!

8. Defend all migrants against xenophobe attacks that are led by reactionary elements in the hunger revolt. Spread leaflets, newspapers, speeches, and other forms

of information to educate about the cause of poverty and misery today: capitalism. Explain the need for a perspective to smash the system by an armed uprising. Only the working class, in alliances with all poor people, taking the power can solve the hunger crisis. Organize public meetings in neighbourhoods, workplaces, and schools to build popular assemblies capable of transforming spontaneous outbursts of the hunger revolt into well-organized action of expropriations by the workers and poor. It is urgent to build the revolutionary party now!

9. In events of a hunger revolt, expropriation starts with organizing of the masses to not only take food and supplies for themselves in wild rage but to share them with others and to take care of the collective needs. It is not to stop here, but to win the workers and poor to take control over factories and companies by working class power. Remember the heroic Marikana workers strike and call for the organizing of an indefinite general strike! It is time to bring down the ANC government! Only a revolutionary government, run by the working class in alliance with the poor can open the road to the end of the misery and striking inequality – the road to socialism!

10. It is the betrayal of reformism and centrism, of all those forces who supported and even demanded the bonapartist lockdown policy that isolate them from the poor masses on the street! The same reformists and centrists are powerless in events like the current hunger revolt in South Africa. They sympathize with the needs of the poor in words at best, instead of becoming an integral part of such historic events. Hence, they are incapable to lead such spontaneous outbursts to a higher stage of the class struggle. But the hunger revolt in South Africa is just one of many more to come. Authentic revolutionaries understand that such raw political developments are the spark that can open the road towards future revolutions. Comrades, brothers, and sister, this is a major crack in the COVID-19 counterrevolution!

Revolutionaries all around the world – learn from the current developments in South Africa and raise the flag of international solidarity for the cause of our poor brothers and sisters!



Publications of the RCIT

The Inter-Imperialist Cold War between the US and China

By Michael Pröbsting, March 2021

Introduction * A symbolic public row * Two thieves as upholders of moral standards * Escalating the conflict between China and Japan * The Quad Summit * Inter-Imperialist tensions in the Taiwan Strait * Unavoidable continuation and acceleration of inter-imperialist rivalry * Continuing doing business * Towards escalation on the Korean Peninsula? * "Fuck the EU" and Russia, again? * Confirmation of the Marxist analysis * Footnotes

A RCIT Pamphlet, 20 pages, A4 Format

Nigeria: Free Nnamdi Kanu!

Drop All Criminal Charges! Join the Fight for an independent Biafran State!

Statement of the Revolutionary Socialist Vanguard (RSV), Nigerian section of the RCIT. 1st July, 2021

The exiled leader of the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB), Nnamdi Kanu, has been arrested by Nigerian authorities. He was arraigned in the Federal High Court on Tuesday where the Department of State Services (DSS) was given the permission to detain him until the next hearing on July 26&27. Sequel to his arrest the Nigerian Army has dispatched troops to the South Eastern states to deter any popular campaign for his release. (1)

While the actual details of his arrest remains unclear, the Attorney General of the Federation (AGF) Abubakar Malami, in a press conference said Kanu was "intercepted" by the "Nigerian intelligence and security services" on Sunday. The British High Commission to Nigeria has denied he was arrested on British soil as he has been resident there for the past 2 years. (2)

Although the true meaning of "intercepted" will be unraveled with time, reports have it that there has been a thorough going attempt by Abuja to capture Kanu by hook or crook in recent months. (3) It is however clear that the arrest is impossible without the covert or overt collaboration with bodies like Interpol, British or American intelligence which are the blood hounds of Western imperialism.

This disputes the claim of many pro-Russian/Chinese Stalinists who dismiss the national liberation movements as separatist projects of Western powers and shows the side that British and US imperialism stand on the actualisation of an independent Biafran state. Moreso it shows that the stance of imperialism on the secessionists campaigns most likely remain unchanged for the foreseeable future.

The arrest comes just weeks after the South Eastern governors in a communique released after a meeting renounced the Biafra movement disowning all its bodies such as the IPOB, ESN etc and pledged allegiance to being part of Nigeria. They also agreed to fleshen up Ebube Agu (the King's Lion) an apparatus set up by the governors to combat the IPOB's ESN and its growing influence in the region. (4)

This is the answer that many left activists and socialist groups in Nigeria (like Femi Falana, SAN; the Cliffite SWL; Nigerian section of the ISA and most of the socialists in the Coalition for Revolution, CORE) who withhold support for the southern nationalist movements on the account that they are controlled by the regional governments require. We note in passing that these are the same activists that brag over being in the "trenches" to fight the military in the 90's despite the fact that the face of that struggle was M.K.O. Abiola, a reactionary bourgeois politician who was the winner of the June 12, 1993 presidential elections.

The disposition of the state governments of the south can never be for the liberation of the region through and through because of the stakes the politicians have to lose. The South Eastern governors in particular are increasingly afraid of the popularity of the Biafra movement and are afraid of the outcome of the power tussle that may ensue in the advent of independence for Biafra. There are already subtle appeals by the Lagos state House of Assembly to the Northern ruling class as a means of both increasing the au-

tonomy of the south and maintaining the northern dominance but at a reduced level by suggesting that Nigeria be renamed into United Africa/Alkebulan Republic (UAR). (5)

True the southern ruling class does dance to the tune of the nationalist movements at times but this is in order to protect their own interest against northern expansion or to maintain their power over the southern people. In the final analysis these section of the Nigerian ruling class fall into the camp that must be defeated with their northern counterparts or swept aside altogether as the masses take charge of their own liberation. Our approach in the RSV has been to support the national liberation movements of the southern ethnic nationalities without giving any political support to the southern ruling class.

We also use this medium to point out that beside the incendiary comments of President Buhari against the Igbo nation, the arbitrary arrest of Nnamdi Kanu is another marker of the national oppression of the Igbos by the Northern ruling class. Many Nigerians have noted that despite the evidence backed reports that link the Minister of Communications, Isa Pantami to Boko Haram/ISWAP he still remains in office talkless of being arrested. Other open sympathisers of Salafi Islamists and kidnappers (Bandits) like Sheik Gumi still walk freely, much worse work closely with Federal government.

The national liberation movements on the other hand creates a powerful avenue for deepening the discussion on Anti-imperialism in Nigeria. Biafra supporters have been known to call out British imperialism over its support of the Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) because of its geopolitical interests. Protesters in the UK have called out 10 Downing Street for supporting the on-going genocide of the Igbos which started in 1966. By admitting the Western backed dominance of the North over the South, the road is opened to a broader discussion of imperialist exploitation in Nigeria as the relationship of national oppression and capitalist super-exploitation is a symbiosis.

The RSV calls on the workers to stand for the right of the southern ethnic nationalities to self-determination and the defence of these nations against repression from the Federal Government of Nigeria!

Release Nnamdi Kanu immediately and without condition! Rescind all charges against him!

Defeat the Nigerian Army and Police in the South East! Defend the IPOB and ESN against state aggression! Down with Ebube Agu! Fight for the Actualisation of Biafran Independence!

For a Workers' and Poor Peasant Government which expropriates the South Eastern Bourgeoisie as a first step to opening the road to socialism in West Africa!

- 1) <https://www.channelstv.com/2021/06/29/breaking-nnamdi-kanu-rearrested-brought-back-to-nigeria/>; 2) <https://punchng.com/nnamdi-kanu-not-arrested-in-uk-says-british-govt/>; 3) <http://saharareporters.com/2021/06/30/revealed-how-inspector-general-police-dss-planned-nnamdi-kanu%E2%80%99s-arrest-months%E2%80%9494military>;
- 4) <https://thenationonline.net/biafra-southeast-leaders-disown-ipob-massob-other/>; 5) <https://www.pulse.ng/news/politics/house-of-reps-receives-proposal-to-change-nigerias-name-to-uar/dzbowjls>;
- <https://www.bbc.com/pidgin/tori-57349108>

Nigeria: Between Twitter and Crowwe

By Jimoh Oladipupo, *International Liaison Personnel, Revolutionary Socialist Vanguard, Nigerian Section of the RCIT*. 25.6.2021

After the ban on Twitter in Nigeria only a thin crust of observers indicated that the outcry of Western governments over the ban far outweighs any form of concern they might have shown on the epidemic of killings and kidnappings across Nigeria. Now shocking revelations emerge that the Federal government has funded to the tune of 128 million naira a new social media cum streaming application to replace transnational giants like Facebook and Twitter.

The ill-fated app Crowwe ended up getting removed from the most widely used online app store, Playstore and the Instagram handle of its developer, Adamu Garba, deleted shortly before. As new developments unfold we see that these recent events are but a tussle between the Nigerian ruling class and their age-old masters the Western Powers. The former tries to break free, protecting and promoting the interests of the "home" bourgeoisie while the latter fights to maintain the supremacy of its exported finance capital.

Not that this is the first time the Nigerian government is funneling millions into privately owned businesses and projects of friends and family, in fact the history of subsequent administrations since independence is replete with such scandals. Albeit this time the Nigerian ruling class outrightly opposes the interests of its neo-colonial masters from the West with an audacity rarely seen in its history. Even cases of multinationals of the 70's and 80's like Leventis and Kingsway faced liquidation as a result of the free fall of the Nigerian economy partly as a result of the neo-liberal freshbakes from World Bank and IMF. In contrast, there is a direct attempt to place certain part of the economy in the hands of the national bourgeoisie. This is consistent with the decline of the world imperialist hegemon, the US which goes hand in hand with the current period of capitalist catastrophe.

Moreso this growing discord between Western imperialism and the Nigerian government has an important facet in the dynamics of the national question. While the Nigerian ruling class which is dominated by the northern oligarchy embarks on a conquest to make Nigeria its caliphate but Western imperialism led by the US has no interest in going that far.

While both agree on the domination of the south by the north the major disagreement is on the form and extent of that domination. That is why major blows have been dealt in this tussle by the Fulani faces which lead the northern oligarchs first Aliko Dangote, then Adamu Garba.

So the condemnation by the US, UK and other Western governments is only because of their business and geopolitical interests. However there is a third force that must survive independently of these two, this force pressured Twitter to delete the chauvinist post of president Buhari and gave negative ratings on Playstore to Crowwe so that it was pulled down. This force between the Nigerian political elite and the big tech companies owned by world powers are the masses.

In recent months Twitter and other big tech companies have announced plans to set up branches in Africa and Nigeria has been on top spots for this consideration. Alas, two big tech companies have announced that their first

"touch downs" will be elsewhere to the dismay of many Nigerians.

While the increasing refusal to choose Nigeria as a base for Africa shows the worsening relationship between the Western powers and the Nigerian power elite, the trend has deep roots in the nature of imperialism which causes a tremendous migration of big corporations to the global south and with it a gigantic rise in the urban working class in those southern nations.

But this, in any case, is not equal to an increased standard of living for the local population. On the contrary, the opposite is always true. As an example, the history of the big oil transnationals in Nigeria is that of super exploitation, environmental degradation, penury, unemployment etc., for the inhabitants of the Niger Delta. Fuel prices has become a source of inconvenience even though Nigeria is the 7th largest exporter of crude oil.

Thus the aim of such multinationals including big tech like Twitter and Google is super-exploitation by gaining extraordinary profits from cheap labour and not the development in that country. Another example is are the mines in Central Africa where child labour is put to use. Young Africans must not wrangle over which country this or that multinational has chosen to start super-exploitation from but must fight for home based industries under popular control.

It is impossible for a neo-colony to move out of servanthood like the Nigerian power elite now attempts without the help of, say, another rival world power. That is why the Nigerian government has turned to China for typical firewall on social media, another reflection of the fall of the US as the number one Great power with the major contender for this role being China.

China's rise is consistent with a decadent stage in capitalism in which the neo-liberal model cannot work. Rather only under Bonapartism and chauvinism where democratic rights are attacked can capitalism survive in this period. Not only the Nigerian but the global bourgeoisie is following the example of China and Russia as the main alternative to escape this period of crises unscathed. This is the major factor which engendered the social media bill.

Twitter is already in talks with the Nigerian government and may bend to a version of operation that smothers free speech as its sole aim is to reap profits. Twitter cannot be allowed to be run by Jack Dorsey or its terms and conditions as many Nigerian intellectuals claim but by the dictates of the masses.

Unban Twitter! No to Crowwe! Nationalise the IT Sector under Workers and Popular Control! Down with the Social Media Bill! All Regulations on Social Media must be based on Popular Opinion on the respective Apps!

For the Right of Ethnic Nationalities to increased Autonomy and Determination of Their Economic Future!

Expropriate the Billionaire Corporations! And Nationalise them under the democratic control of Workers and Poor!

Burma-Myanmar: The Popular Resistance Takes Up Arms!

**For international solidarity by workers and popular organizations!
Down with all forms of imperialist interference!**

Statement of the Liaison Committee of the RCIT and Convergencia Socialista (Argentina), 22 June 2021

1. The popular uprising against the military dictatorship is being transformed into a civil war. Peaceful mass protests against the coup d'état on 1 February by the army – called Tatmadaw in Burma-Myanmar – have been met by brutal repression. According to the *Assistance Association for Political Prisoners* activist group at least 873 protesters have been killed since the coup and many thousands have been arrested. Nearly 230,000 people have fled their homes since the coup, many hiding in the jungle.

2. In response, activists all over the country have formed local resistance groups and armed themselves in order to confront the military. Many of these groups call themselves “*People’s Defence Force*” from this or that region, others have similar names (e.g. “*Chinland Defense Force*”, “*Karenni National Defense Force*”). These armed militias defend their towns and villages against the Tatmadaw and attack military outposts. In response, the Tatmadaw carries out massacres in order to liquidate popular support for the armed resistance forces. A week ago, soldiers occupied Kinma in Magway region – a village with about 1,000 residents – and burned it down. Only 10 of 237 houses were left standing.

3. Today, an important development seems to have taken place as armed struggles started in Mandalay – the second-largest city of the country with a about 1.6 million residents. Gunfire was exchanged after soldiers tried to carry out a raid against a house of the *Mandalay People’s Defence Force* in the city’s Chanmyatharzi Township. At least two soldiers were killed. Mandalay PDF spokesperson Bo Tun Tauk Naing has been quoted in media saying: “*The members of the public in the area have moved to safety, and we have not backed down. We’ll continue to fight. We’ve declared war. The day we’ve been waiting for is finally here.*” (Myanmar Now, 22 June 2021)

4. The *Liaison Committee of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) and *Convergencia Socialista* (Argentina) strongly welcomes the formation of armed resistance groups. We have warned from the beginning against any pacifist illusions and outlined a program of struggle in order to bring down the military dictatorship. As part of such a perspective we stated: “*Furthermore, the movement needs to get arms and to create self-defense units so that it can defend itself against the repression apparatus. Activists should develop agitation among the soldiers so that they do not follow the orders of the coup generals. Revolutionaries have to explain the necessity of an armed uprising and the creation of a workers and poor peasant government which will open the road to socialism.*” (Myanmar: Down with the reactionary Military Coup! 4.2.2021)

5. The latest developments are not surprising. For some time, we have warned that “*the army command is determined to brutally annihilate all forms of popular resistance on the streets. In other words, Myanmar could head towards a scenario like Syria in spring 2011 when the Assad dictatorship tried to drown the popular protests in blood.*” (Myanmar: Bloody

Military Crackdown on Pro-Democracy Mass Protests! 1.3.2021) In another statement we said: “*Make no mistake: Senior General Min Aung Hlaing – the commander-in-chief of the Tatmadaw – is Asia’s Assad in waiting!*” (Myanmar: International Solidarity with the Popular Uprising! 6.5.2021)

6. While taking up arms is an important step forward, it is not sufficient if it is not combined with a program of struggle. Armed guerrilla struggle alone can not defeat the army. It is necessary to combine such tactics with *systematic agitation among the ordinary soldiers*. In addition, resistance activists must focus on organizing the struggle in the cities and preparing for a *general strike* which – in combination with an *armed insurrection* – could overthrow the military dictatorship.

7. The *Liaison Committee* of the RCIT and CS repeats its calls to the international workers and popular movements to organize solidarity actions around the globe. They should organize boycott campaigns against imperialist corporations which are making huge profits through their collaboration with the military dictatorship and the suppression of workers’ rights. We also repeat our condemnation of Chinese and Russian imperialism which lend crucial support for the military dictatorship. We support all efforts to undermine the political, economic and military aid for the *Tatmadaw*. At the same time, we oppose all forms of interference of U.S. and European imperialism which try to utilize the crisis in Myanmar only to advance their geopolitical interests. Finally, we call for the arms delivery to the insurgents without any political conditions.

8. For the revolution to win, it needs a planning and organizing center. In other words, it needs a new revolutionary party – independent of bourgeois forces as former Prime Minister Aung San Suu Kyi and her NLD. Such a party should be committed to the formation of workers and popular councils and militias, the expropriation of the domestic as well as foreign capitalist corporations, the smashing of the *Tatmadaw* and the overthrow of the military dictatorship by permanent revolution and its replacement by a workers and poor peasant government. Such a party should also unconditionally support the right of self-determination for all national and ethnic minorities – including the right to separate and to constitute an independent state. The RCIT and CS calls all revolutionaries who share such a perspective to join us!

* * * * *

We draw reader’s attention to other documents of the RCIT and CS on the military coup in Myanmar which are compiled on a special sub-page on our website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/asia/collection-of-articles-on-the-military-coup-in-myanmar/>

Burma: Russia is a Crucial Helping Hand for the Tatmadaw

**Support the popular uprising to bring down the military dictatorship!
For international solidarity by workers and popular organizations!**

Statement of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 6 July 2021

1. The latest visit of Senior General Min Aung Hlaing – the leader of the military dictatorship in Burma/Myanmar – to Moscow has demonstrated once more Russia’s crucial role. Since the coup d’état on 1 February, the imperialist Great Powers Russia and China have been the most important backers of the Tatmadaw – as the military is called in the country. Without their support, the regime would hardly have been able to survive the ongoing popular uprising which has entered the stage of civil war.

2. While China is Burma/Myanmar’s most important business partner, Russia plays a crucial role as supplier of arms. According to the renowned *Stockholm International Peace Research Institute*, Myanmar procured US\$1.5 billion worth of military hardware from Russia between 1999 and 2018, accounting for 39% of its total arms imports over that period. Russian-made military equipment – like Hind Mi-35 helicopter gunships, transport helicopters, MiG-29 fighter jets and Yak-130 ground attack aircraft – play a decisive now in the regime’s bloody suppression of the popular uprising. Add to these other forms of long-standing ties between the Russian and Myanmar military like the participation of Burmese military personnel at several Russian military schools and training facilities.

3. The interests of both sides are obvious. The Tatmadaw needs the economic, military and diplomatic support of Great Powers as it faces a wide-spread armed insurrection by the popular masses. In addition, it faces sanctions by Western imperialist powers which lost a key ally with the overthrow of Prime Minister Aung San Suu Kyi.

4. Russian imperialism, on the other hand, views its close ties with the military dictatorship as an important tool to expand its influence in the South and South-East Asian region. As we have pointed out in past documents, Burma/Myanmar is centrally located in the region. It is a neighbor state of two powers (China and India) and has direct access to the Bay of Bengal and the Indian Ocean. Russia has also established close ties with Vietnam and Laos and tries to advance its relationships also with other states in the region. Furthermore, Russia has also close relations with India. Significantly, Russia’s updated *National Security Strategy* document – published a few days ago – emphasizes the expansion of strategic cooperation with China and India as a foreign policy priority.

5. These developments confirm the Marxist analysis and strategy as it has been outlined by the *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT). Contrary to shameful claims of numerous Stalinists, Castro-Chavistas and pseudo-Trotskyists, Russia does not play a progressive role in world politics in any way. It is no “anti-imperialist” force, rather it is an utterly reactionary factor. Its crucial support for the bloody Tatmadaw dictatorship is no exceptional case. Other examples of Moscow’s reactionary role are the genocidal suppression of the Chechen people, its bloody colonial war in Syria, its aggression against the Ukraine or its close ties to the Lukashenko dictatorship in Belarus, to name just a few examples.

6. The RCIT repeats that Russia is no “anti-imperialist” force, no “semi-colony” and no “peripheral” state. It is rather one of several imperialist Great Powers (like the U.S., China, EU, and Japan) which are struggling for influence and domination in world politics. While Russia’s economy is weaker than some of its rivals, its military strength (e.g. second-largest arms exporter, largest number of nuclear warheads) is superior to all others except the U.S.

7. Together with our comrades in *Convergencia Socialista* (Argentina) we repeat our call to the international workers and popular movements to organize solidarity actions around the globe. They should organize boycott campaigns against imperialist corporations which are making huge profits through their collaboration with the military dictatorship and the suppression of workers’ rights. We condemn China’s and Russia’s support for the military dictatorship. We support all efforts to undermine the political, economic and military aid for the *Tatmadaw*. At the same time, we oppose all forms of interference of U.S. and European imperialism which try to utilize the crisis in Myanmar only to advance their geopolitical interests. Finally, we call for arms delivery to the insurgents without any political conditions.

8. We call all socialists who share our support for the popular uprising in Burma/Myanmar as well as our opposition against all imperialist Great Powers to join us in the struggle for building a new Revolutionary World Party!

International Bureau of the RCIT

The Rise of Russia as an Imperialist Great Power

Two Pamphlets by Michael Pröbsting (International Secretary of the RCIT)

Order the pamphlet via our contact address: rcit@thecommunists.net

Thailand: Pro-Democracy Activists Call for Removal of the Prayut Chan-o-cha Regime!

By Laurence Humphries, RCIT Britain, 12 July 2021

The protests and demonstrations of pro-democracy activists continue to call for Prayuth Chan-o-cha to resign. Since the 25th June 2021 protesters have been demanding democratic freedoms and rights in Thailand. Prayuth Chan-o-cha – a former army general who led the 2014 coup against the bourgeois-populist government of Ying Luck Shinawatra – has repeatedly used the anti-democratic Thai constitution to remain in power. The popular masses want him gone so Thailand can embrace more democratic freedoms and basic rights.

The *Bangkok Post* reports: “Three groups of anti-government protesters took to Bangkok streets on Saturday afternoon, demanding the resignation of Gen Prayut Chan-o-cha as prime minister. At 3pm, the Prachachon Khon Thai group met at the U-rupong intersection and planned to march to the Government House. It was led by Nititorn Lamlua, a former co-leader of the now-defunct People’s Democratic Reform Committee or yellow shirts. This was the third time they assembled to unseat Gen Prayut. Their plan was to have an outsider or non-MP nominated in his place under Section 272 of the Constitution. An hour later, the Thai Mai Thon group, led by Jatuporn Prompan, a former leader of the red shirts, met at Saphan Phan Fa on Ratchadamnoen Avenue before moving on to the Government House. This was also the third time they gathered. Their goal was also to unseat Gen Prayut but they leave it to Parliament to choose his replacement. They don’t mind that 250 appointed senators will join MPs in voting for the new PM.

At 5pm, Sombat Boonngam-anong, a red shirt and activist, staged a “car mob” where some 200 vehicles joined.” [1]

The importance of the involvement of the ‘Red Shirts’ cannot be underestimated. The *Red Shirts* were the strongest popular base of support for Thaksin Shinawatra, brother of Ying Luck and former leader of the bourgeois-populist government before the coup of 2014.

The 1932 Revolution and its importance

“Pro-democracy protesters in Thailand have rallied to mark the 89th anniversary of the Siamese Revolution, a bloodless coup that brought an end to the country’s absolute monarchy and ushered in constitutional rule. Demonstrators marching in the Thai capital Bangkok on Thursday had three demands: constitutional reform, the removal of 250 military appointees from the parliament and the resignation of Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-o-cha. The police were out in force as hundreds of people yelled “Prayuth, get out,” and made their way to Parliament House. The protesters carried red and white flags as well as replicas of an iconic plaque that commemorates the 1932 revolution. The rally came a year after the start of huge youth-led protests demanding democracy that sent shockwaves through Thailand’s establishment – particularly a demand to reduce the powers of the country’s revered monarch. At their peak, the protests drew tens of thousands of demonstrators but momentum slowed in

Books of the RCIT

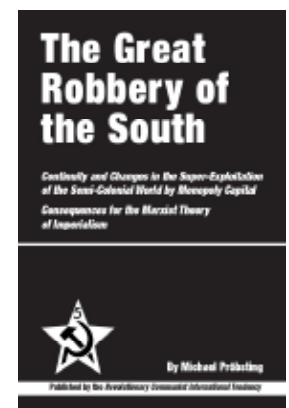
Michael Pröbsting: The Great Robbery of the South Continuity and Changes in the Super-Exploitation of the Semi-Colonial World by Monopoly Capital. Consequences for the Marxist Theory of Imperialism

The RCIT is proud to announce the publication of a book called *THE GREAT ROBBERY OF THE SOUTH*. The book’s subtitle is: *Continuity and Changes in the Super-Exploitation of the Semi-Colonial World by Monopoly Capital*. Consequences for the Marxist Theory of Imperialism. The book is in English-language. It has 15 chapters, 448 pages and includes 139 Tables and Figures. The author of the book is Michael Pröbsting who is the International Secretary of the RCIT.

In *The Great Robbery of the South* Michael Pröbsting analyses the super-exploitation and oppression of the semi-colonial world (often referred to as the “Third World”) by the imperialist powers and monopolies. He shows that the relationship between the small minority of rich capitalist countries and the huge majority of mankind living in the semi-colonial world forms one of the most important elements of the imperialist world system we are living in. The Great Robbery of the South shows that the past decades have been a complete confirmation of the validity of Lenin’s theory of imperialism and its programmatic conclusions. *The Great Robbery of the South* demonstrates the important changes in the relationship between the imperialist and the semi-colonial countries. Using comprehensive material (including 139 Tables and Figures), Michael Pröbsting elaborates that never before

has such a big share of the world capitalist value been produced in the South. Never before have the imperialist monopolies been so dependent on the super-exploitation of the semi-colonial world. Never before has migrant labor from the semi-colonial world played such a significant role for the capitalist value production in the imperialist countries. Never before has the huge majority of the world working class lived in the South – outside of the old imperialist metropolises.

In *The Great Robbery of the South* Michael Pröbsting argues that a correct understanding of the nature of imperialism as well as of the program of permanent revolution which includes the tactics of consistent anti-imperialism is essential for anyone who wants to change the world and bring about a socialist future. Order your copy NOW! \$20 / £13 / €15 plus p+p (21\$ for US and international, £9 for UK, €10 for Europe)



2021 because of an uptick in COVID-19 cases.” [2]

Such kind of demonstrations are taking place elsewhere throughout East and South-East Asia. Most important, the popular masses in Burma/Myanmar have shown heroic determination in resisting the military coup on 1st February. In Hong Kong there is a strong democracy movement which has been clamped down by the Stalinist-capitalist regime in Beijing. Another example is the protest movement in neighbouring Cambodia which is ruled by the bourgeois regime of Hun Sen.

A region of crucial importance

The RCIT has shown in recent articles that region of South and East Asia is now becoming a significant area of significant revolutionary upheavals. It is home of a large concentration of the global working class. The armed insurrection in Burma/Myanmar has become one of the most developed class struggles in the world. The military tensions in the South China Sea shows that the inter-imperialist rivalry between the USA, Europe, Japan and Russia and China has become very intense.

“As we have pointed out on several occasions, this region plays a key role – one could even say the most important one – in the capitalist world economy. Among the 12 leading countries in terms of global manufacturing production, five are from this region (and here we exclude Russia which in fact is also, partially, an Asian country). China is the global leader with a share of 25%. These five countries – China, Japan, South Korea, India and Indonesia – have a combined share of about 43% of global manufacturing production. There is no doubt that if we add the other countries of East, South-East and South Asia, they make up at least half of global industrial production. We see a similar concentration when we look to the global proletariat. As the RCIT demonstrated in a number of works, the majority of the global proletariat live in East, South-East and South Asia. Today, 866 million – this means 50,1% of all wage laborers on this planet – live in this region. And if we take the international industrial labor force, the share of this region is even higher (60%).

In summary, the popular uprising in Burma/Myanmar takes place in the heart of a region which is of highest significance both for world capitalism as well as for the international working class struggle! From this follows the imperative that Marx-

ists and revolutionaries must unreservedly support the popular uprising in Burma/Myanmar not only because of its legitimate and progressive cause but also because it takes place in a region which is in the focus of the global class struggle.” [4]

This shows that the developing struggle in Thailand against the corrupt and self-serving regime takes place within a crucial region which is of extreme importance to Marxists.

The RCIT puts forward a revolutionary programme for the unified struggle of the masses, the urban poor and the peasants against capitalism in Thailand. We ask all activists to study our programme and contact us if you want further discussions with us.

Prepare for an indefinite general strike to remove Prayuth Chan-o-cha and his reactionary regime!

Down with constitutional monarchy of King Maha Vajiralongkorn (Rama X)! Banish the King and his entourage and confiscate all the wealth he has stolen from the Thai population!

For a socialised public health system to stem the rise of infections of the COVID 19 Pandemic. For proper medical care and provision with proper ICU units with test and trace, personal public protection equipped with ventilators, and a massive recruitment drive for more nurses and doctors. End the Lockdown. No compulsion to be vaccinated only if you wish to be vaccinated.

For the nationalisation and expropriation of capitalist corporations with no compensation – especially large pharmaceutical companies who have made billions and enriched self-seeking millionaires! Redistribute their wealth among the poor and the oppressed.

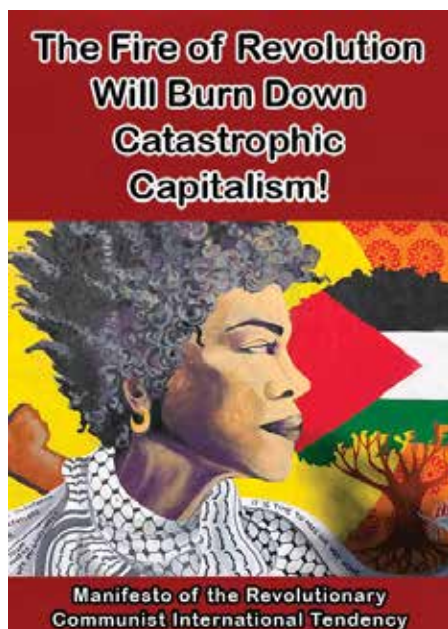
For armed defence groups and resistance to defend peasants and the oppressed against police and army!

For a workers and poor peasants government based on popular councils and militias!

Join the RCIT and help building a genuine Revolutionary World Party!

Footnotes

- 1) [Three anti-Prayut groups rally, stage ‘car mob’ \(bangkokpost.com\)](https://bangkokpost.com)
- 2) [‘Prayuth, get out’: Thai protesters rally to mark 1932 revolution | Protests News | Al Jazeera](https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/07/13/prayuth-get-out-thai-protesters-rally-to-mark-1932-revolution)
- 3) [Burma/Myanmar: Some Thoughts on the International Significance of the Popular Uprising](https://www.marxists.org/asia/burma/myanmar/2021/07/13/burma-myanmar-some-thoughts-on-the-international-significance-of-the-popular-uprising.htm)



New Program of the RCIT

Manifesto for the Liberation Struggle

Adopted at the III. World Congress of the RCIT in April 2021

- * **Introductory Note**
- * **A New Era of Counterrevolutionary Offensive and Revolutionary Upheavals**
- * **The Capitalist State Monster Attacks Democracy! Defeat Chauvinism and Bonapartism!**
- * **Great Power Rivalry and Imperialist Aggression in the South: Turn the Guns against the Lords of Power and Money!**
- * **Crisis of Revolutionary Leadership: How to Organize and How to Fight?**

A RCIT Pamphlet, 24 pages, A5 Format

Iran: Mass Struggles Shake the Regime!

Unite the sectoral and local struggles to a popular uprising! For a workers and poor peasants government! No to imperialist sanctions against Iran!

Statement of the Revolutionary Communist International Tendency (RCIT), 24 July 2021

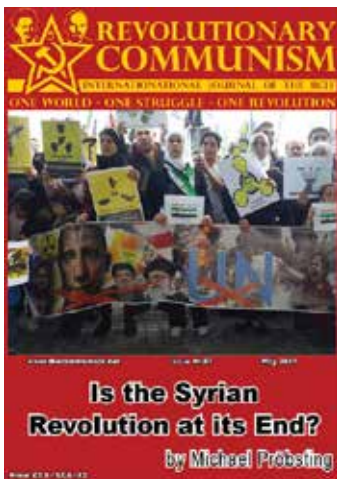
1. A wave of mass protests is sweeping across Iran. The country – which experienced already two popular uprisings (in December 2017 / early 2018 and in November / December 2019) – is coming close to another pre-revolutionary crises. Given Iran's central role in the Middle East region, these struggles are of enormous significance for socialists all over the world.

2. In recent months workers have staged strikes in various cities as their wages are stagnating while inflation is spiraling over 50%. These low-level protests have culminated in a powerful strike of the oil contract workers which has begun in late June. This strike has now spread to at least 117 oil and gas installations, refineries and petrochemical plants in 17 provinces, with between 60,000 and 100,000 workers participating. According to Iranian socialists, it is the most extensive industrial action ever conducted by oil workers in the country. The strike, which takes place largely in the country's oil-rich south, is led by the *Council for Organising Protests by Oil Contract Workers* which has put forward 13 demands. Naturally, the strike focuses on wages and workplace-related issues (contracts, security, health, etc.). However, the strikers also call for the freedom of assembly and protest as well as for *"the granting of fundamental rights of social security, including free healthcare and education for all"*. The regime has been cau-

tious until now and tries to accommodate to the demands as the oil workers are very skilled and, hence, difficult to replace.

3. Most importantly, the southwest Khuzestan province experiences a popular uprising since 16 July. These protests – with violent clashes every night in over a dozen cities including Susangerd, Mahshahr and Ahvaz – have been triggered by the lack of access to clean drinking water. The country faces a severe drought, a result of the global climate change caused by the reckless capitalist profit system. As a result, precipitation had decreased by almost 50% in the last year, leaving dams with dwindling water supplies. The situation is worsened by mismanagement of the corrupt and incompetent authorities.

4. Until now, four people have died in the clashes (including one policeman), according to official reports, albeit the real figure is said to be higher. The uprising is particularly important as it takes place in the country's richest province, with its oil and gas resources, industry and agriculture. It is the same province which is home of many oil drilling sites currently brought to a standstill because of the ongoing strike wave. Furthermore, Khuzestan is home of a large Arab minority which experiences long-standing national oppression by the Persian-dominated state, and which has fought for their rights since decades. According



Publications of the RCIT

Is the Syrian Revolution at its End? Is Third Camp Abstentionism Justified?

By Michael Pröbsting, April 2017

An essay on the organs of popular power in the liberated area of Syria, on the character of the different sectors of the Syrian rebels, and on the failure of those leftists who deserted the Syrian Revolution

Introduction * The Nature of the Local Coordination Councils in Syria * The Contradictory Nature of the Petty-Bourgeois Rebel Factions * A note on the adjectival juxtaposition of "progressive" to liberal democrats versus "reactionary" to Islamists * Hayyat Tahrir al-Sham and Other Islamist Militias * The Role of Religion in Democratic and National Liberation Struggles * Some Arguments on the Ongoing Progressive Character of the Syrian Revolution * Have the Rebels Become Agents of US Imperialism and Regional Powers? * On Foreign Powers' Support for Liberation Movements p* Lenin and Trotsky on Liberation Struggles and Imperialist Interference * What Did Lenin and Trotsky Say about Getting Support from Imperialists? * Imagining Two Different Scenarios of the Revolution's Success & Failure * A Period of Defeats and Retreats: What Are the Reasons? * Some Thoughts on the Future Prospects of the Arab Revolution * The Urgent Need for a Revolutionary Party * Footnotes

A RCIT Pamphlet, 24 pages, A4 Format

to *Human Rights Activists News Agency* other cities outside of the province have joined the protest, including the city of Aligoudarz in the Lorestan Province (where one protester has been already killed) as well as the city of Mashhad in northeast Iran.

5. The regime is obviously highly worried about the uprising. Authorities have cut mobile phone internet service since the beginning of the uprising. At the same time, the regime tries to calm down people with empty gestures. Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei even felt obliged to show sympathy for the protesters as state television quoted him as saying: "*People showed their discontent, but we cannot have any complaint since the issue of water in the hot climate of Khuzestan is not a minor issue.*"

6. In short, the Mullah dictatorship is shattered by the combination of a massive oil workers strike, which affects the key sector of Iran's economy, and a popular uprising in a crucial province which seems to trigger solidarity protests in other parts of the country. Hence, the country could soon experience a (pre-)revolutionary situation challenging a regime which has been in power for more than four decades.

7. These developments are of crucial importance for the whole Middle East. First, it is a relatively industrialized (semi-colonial) country and one of the largest oil producers in the world. It is also the most populous country in the region (83 million people). Furthermore, the Mullah regime plays a reactionary role in several countries in the region. Its militias have been a decisive force – together with Russia's Air Force – to keep Assad the tyrant in power despite a powerful and ongoing popular uprising of the Syrian people since March 2011. In Iraq, militias under control of Teheran have played an important role in attacking and killing numerous anti-government protesters.

8. The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) unreservedly supports the workers strikes and popular uprising in Iran! It is urgent to unite and to transform these struggles into a *nation-wide, indefinite, general strike* resulting in an *armed insurrection* to bring down the capitalist dictatorship of corrupted businessmen, reactionary generals, and hypocritical mullahs. Naturally, socialist activists share the demands for higher wages, democratic freedoms, clean water, etc. In addition, the RCIT supports the right of self-determinations for all national minorities in Iran (e.g. Arabs, Kurds, Azeris, Balochis).

9. However, these demands should be combined with slogans calling for workers control in a nationalized oil industry and for workers and popular control in the

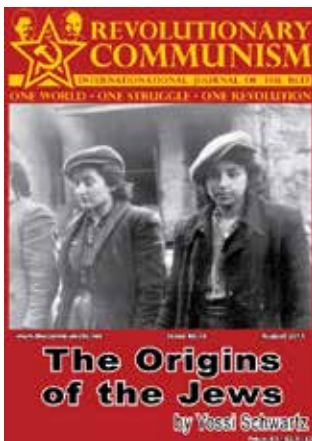
public sector. Socialists propose that the masses organize themselves in *popular councils at workplaces, neighborhoods, universities and villages*. Likewise, they need to build *self-defense committees* to fight against the repression apparatus. The RCIT says that the struggle should be combined with the perspective of the *revolutionary overthrow of the regime* and its replacement by *workers and poor peasants government* based on popular councils and militias.

10. Similar to Cuba, right-wing and pro-imperialist forces try to exploit these popular protests for advancing their reactionary agenda. In some cases (for example in the town of Izeh), demonstrators chanted slogans like "*Reza Shah, bless your soul,*" a reference to the king who founded the Pahlavi dynasty which was overthrown by the revolution in 1979. Socialists have nothing in common with such scum and will work to throw out such forces for demonstrations.

11. Likewise, the RCIT calls for the immediate lifting of all imperialist sanctions against Iran. Our opposition against the Mullah regime has nothing in common with such acts of Great Power aggression which largely affects ordinary people. It is not the task of the "*Great Satan*" to overthrow the regime – this is the task of the great people of Iran!

12. The RCIT calls for combing solidarity with the popular uprising in Iran with support for mass protests against the reactionary regimes in Syria, in Iraq, in Lebanon and other countries. Likewise, it is important to continue supporting the heroic struggle of the Yemeni people against the Saudi-led aggression which started in spring 2015. Finally, we call socialists to recognize that the uprisings in Iran and other countries of the Middle East are part of a global wave of mass struggles which have experienced a new highpoint in recent months (e.g. the civil war in Burma/Myanmar against the military coup, mass protests in Cuba against the Stalinist-capitalist regime, Hunger Riots in South Africa – to name just the most important events of the last weeks).

13. The RCIT calls socialists to unite on the basis of support for all these struggles of the workers and oppressed as well as on the anti-imperialist opposition against all Great Powers (U.S., China, EU, Russia and Japan). Such a unity requires an unambiguous program of international socialist revolution. The RCIT calls liberation fighters all over the world to unite in building *revolutionary parties* in each and every country in combination with building a *Revolutionary World Party!* Join the RCIT in tackling this great task!



Publications of the RCIT

The Origins of the Jews

By Yossi Schwartz, July 2015

Chapter I: What are the origins of the Jews?

Chapter II: The Rise of Anti-Semitism

Chapter III: Anti-Semitism and Zionism

Chapter IV: The Russian Revolution:

Bolshevism, the Bund, and Stalinism

Israel: An Important First Test for the New Government

When the “Left-Wing” is to the Right of the “Right Wing”

by Adam Smith, Internationalist Socialist League (RCIT Section in Israel / Occupied Palestine), 06.07.2021

The government is facing its first real test in the parliament. The law on the prohibition of family unification of (Palestinian) citizens of Israel with PA residents, was passed for the first time in 2003, and has ever since been renewed every few years. It has been scheduled for renewal in July 2021, otherwise its status will lapse.

The Likud party, for its own opportunistic reasons, has decided to vote against the law, in an attempt to embarrass the coalition, even if when it was in government it voted for it time and time again. The Arab parties of Hadash (“Communist’s front” Party of Israel) and Balad have opposed this law, while the (Southern, not the Northern faction which has been outlawed) Islamic Arab party have decided to support the law, with its head Mansour Abbas voting in favor, and two other abstaining. The Meretz party, the “left-wing” Zionist party, said it will support a softened version of the law, mainly that it will have to be renewed in a half a year instead of a year, and give more rights to existing permit holders. (1)

This has shown once again how supposedly “left-wing” Zionism can be to the right of “right-wing” Zionism.

In practice, it will mean little for the Palestinians as any person requesting residence in Israel will have to be vetted the notorious internal security services (many if not all will not even make it to the interview stage as they have family members that were once in prison) and approved by the Interior Minister (which is Ayelet Shaked from the Yamina party), so the chances of approval are between nada and gurnisht. The few Palestinians who were able to obtain residency permits before 2003 cannot work, drive, or study legally in Israel, or go abroad. (2)

Even when it comes to non-Arab, but non-Jewish spouses, Israel makes it very difficult to obtain and to renew residency permits for spouses, “in hope that they will break up in the meantime” according to a ministry insider. (3)

The Ban on Family Unification was listed by Adaleh as Israel’s most racist law and in the world (4), amongst laws enabling local councils to vet potential new buyers and the Law of Return, not an easy accomplishment one can say! In a Knesset meeting in 2014, an ashkenazi ultra-Orthodox member, who opposed the laws for his own reasons (he wanted to limit the Law of Return to apply only for more religious Jews, and not for more secular Jews from the former USSR), exposed the hypocrisy of the law by saying that the real reason for this law is demographic, not because of security concerns (which were addressed by the Shabak vetting) by saying “*what right does a secular government that does not believe in God has a right to distinguish between Jews from different countries, that must be accepted and fake conversions are done for them, and between Arabs who come here and want to be in their homeland?*” (5)

In 2002, a full three months before the attack in the “Matza” restaurant, it was reported that Deeri, a mizrachi ultra-Orthodox MK and then Interior Minister, was looking into ways to reduce the number of non-Jews coming to Israel. (6)

Even today, the Interior Minister said that this law is designed to stop terrorist attacks, concealing the law’s true

intent. In contrast, Laid also added that “*there is no need to hide from the content of the law, it is to preserve the Jewish demographic majority.*” (7)

The role of the courts in upholding this legislation should also be noted. One of the ways of diluting and pacifying the Palestinian struggle (as the appellants do not want to risk their appeal) is by allowing Palestinians to have a right to stand before the Supreme Court in Israel, even though they have close to zero chance of winning their case. Regarding this law specifically, the so-called great liberal Aharon Barak has said that: “*All the State’s reasons show that the purpose of this law is for security reasons. The discussions in the Knesset prior to the passage of the law have no effect on the law’s purpose. Furthermore, the demographic topic was not discussed at all by us and we were not asked to rule on it.*” (8)

Once again, the liberal Zionist illusion’s do not match with reality, and that is why they are fading away in today’s Israel, giving way to the more hardline (truth speaking) Zionists.

Down with the Ban on Family Unification!

Down with the Zionist Government!

Down with Zionist Colonialism!

For a free red Palestine!

Footnotes

1) <https://www.haaretz.co.il/news/politi/.premium-1.9971931>

2) <https://www.haaretz.co.il/news/politi/.premium-1.9971931>

3) <https://www.haaretz.co.il/magazine/.premium-1.2165705>

4) <https://www.adalah.org/he/content/view/10371>

5) <https://idanlandau.com/2015/01/29/inside-israels-most-racist-law/>

6) <https://www.haaretz.co.il/misc/1.762776>

7) <https://www.haaretz.co.il/news/politi/1.9970940>

8) <https://idanlandau.com/2015/01/29/inside-israels-most-racist-law/>

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The RCIT has published many documents on the second wave of the Arab Revolution. These documents can be read on a special sub-section on our website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/collection-of-articles-on-2nd-wave-of-great-arab-revolution/>

We have also published a number of booklets, statements and articles on the Syrian Revolution which can be read on a special sub-section on our website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/collection-of-articles-on-the-syrian-revolution/>

Our documents on the Fourth Gaza War are compiled on another special sub-page on our website: <https://www.thecommunists.net/worldwide/africa-and-middle-east/collection-of-articles-on-fourth-gaza-war>

Israel: From the Power of Logic to the Logic of Power

A Statement by the ISL (Section of the RCIT in Israel / Occupied Palestine), on the Palestinian uprising, 06.07.2021

This weekend thousands of Palestinians organized by various factions and youth organizations have been demonstrating in Al-Khalil (Hebron) and Ramallah against the corrupt and oppressive Palestinian Authority (PA). They demanded the end to the PA, the collaborator with the Israeli and the American imperialists against the Palestinian people.

We of the RCIT unconditionally support these demonstrations.

If anyone had any illusions whether it was Hamas or Israel that had won the war in May this year, this uprising proves that Hamas won, and it is now more popular than ever. A historical law is that when an imperialist state is losing a war against an oppressed nation, there is an uprising of the masses of the oppressed nations and the working class.

In an interview with Fossa Trotsky related to this observation: *“Fossa: What can you say on the liberating struggle of the peoples of Latin America and the problems of the future? What is your opinion of Aprimo?”*

Trotsky: I am not sufficiently acquainted with the life of the individual Latin American countries to permit myself a concrete answer to the questions you pose. It is clear to me at any rate that the internal tasks of these countries cannot be solved without a simultaneous revolutionary struggle against imperialism. The agents of the United States, England, France (Lewis, Jouhaux, Toledano, the Stalinists) try to substitute the struggle against fascism for the struggle against imperialism. We have observed their criminal efforts at the recent congress against war and fascism. In the countries of Latin America, the agents of “democratic” imperialism are especially dangerous, since they are more capable of fooling the masses than the open agents of fascist bandits.

I will take the most simple and obvious example. In Brazil there now reigns a semi-fascist regime that every revolutionary can only view with hatred. Let us assume, however, that on the morrow England enters into a military conflict with Brazil. I ask you on whose side of the conflict will the working class be? I will answer for myself—in this case, I will be on the side of “fascist” Brazil against “democratic” Great Britain. Why? Because in the conflict between them it will not be a question of democracy or fascism. If England should be victorious, she will put another fascist in Rio de Janeiro and will place double chains on Brazil. If Brazil on the contrary should be victorious, it will give a mighty impulse to the national and democratic consciousness of the country and will lead to the overthrow of the Vargas dictatorship. The defeat of England will at the same time deliver a blow to British imperialism and will give an impulse to the revolutionary movement of the British proletariat. Truly, one must have an empty head to reduce world antagonisms and military conflicts to the struggle between fascism and democracy. Under all masks, one must know how to distinguish exploiters, slave-owners, and robbers!” [1]

The immediate cause of the demonstrations is the murder of the activist Nizar Banat who was beaten to death by the PA so-called “security officers” armed by Israel.

But the deep cause is the repression of the Palestinians for many years by Israel and the PA. The masses demand and rightly so the punishment for those responsible for

the death of Banat. They are not afraid anymore from the Zionist repressive army and police nor the PA’s “security officers”. According to surveys most Palestinians support armed struggle against the Zionist state and its servants in Ramallah.

Since the PA has not held elections since 2005 and because it holds power only by sheer force, supported by Israel and the USA, a proper demand would be for a revolutionary Constituent Assembly of the workers and the poor Fellahin.

The real question is what kind of government should replace the PA? To win this heroic struggle it is necessary to fight for workers and the poor Fellahin government as part of the Arab revolution that is engulfing the entire region. While the interest of the international working class is to be on the side of Hamas and the other factions in a war with Israel as the RCIT did last May, Hamas is not the revolutionary leadership that can lead to the smashing of the Zionist apartheid state and its replacement with a red democratic Palestine. Hamas is afraid of popular armed workers and poor peasants’ revolution and for this reason it does not arm the Palestinian masses. For this reason, the Palestinians need to demand Hamas to arm the masses.

In a similar situation, the Bolsheviks wrote: *“Let us suppose that the people in the towns are imbued with hatred for the government; they can always rise for the struggle if the opportunity offers. That means that quantitatively we are ready. But this is not enough. If an uprising is to be successful, it is necessary to draw up in advance a plan of the struggle, to draw up in advance the tactics of the battle; it is necessary to have organized detachments, and so forth,”* (see Akhali Tskhovreba, No. 6) [2]

There are rumors that Mahmoud Abbas is to be replaced by Salam Fayyad who was the prime minister of the West-Bank from 2007, until 2013. He is another servant of American imperialists. He was an important figure of the IMF and under his government his close capitalist friends sold Israel the cement to build the separation walls.

This is the time to organize not only self-defense but a Palestinian working-class party committed to the liberation of Palestine from the river to the sea as part of the Arab revolution that can form a democratic socialist Middle East. A victory of the Arab revolution may even break a section of the Israeli Jewish workers from the racist Zionism to join the revolution. The Bolshevik revolution of 1917 led a section of the Jewish workers to break with Zionism and form a revolutionary workers party - the Communist Party of Palestine that unfortunately degenerated later by Stalinism to the point that it helped to create the Zionist state and to the ethnic cleansing - Nakba of 1948, that was planned by the Zionists.

As a final comment, we recommend a new Israeli movie the *Blue Box* made by the granddaughter of Yoseph Weitz who was one of the Zionist figures responsible for the land theft, the decision to expel the Palestinians, and the decision by Israel to preclude the return of these exiles by taking over or destroying their villages, often burying them beneath new forests. This movie should be compared with *Elle s’appelait Sarah* (2010). It deals with French history

in 1942 Paris, when French officials rounded up over ten thousand Jews and placed them in local concentration camps. Eight thousand were sent off to German concentration camps. In 2009, a journalist named Julia Jarmond (Dame Kristin Scott Thomas) wrote a story on the deported Jews in 1942. When she moves into her father-in-law's childhood apartment, she finds out it once belonged to the Strazynski Jewish family that was deported to the camps. Of course, the movie based on Yoseph Weitz's diaries will not change the Zionist lies spread for example by the ADL (Anti-Defamation League) that the Palestinian refugees simply fled or only some individuals or some groups forced them to flee while it was planned by the Zionist leadership like Ben Gurion. The ADL claims:

"The Palestinian refugee issue originated in the 1948 Arab-Israeli war when five Arab armies invaded the State of Israel just hours after it was established. During the ensuing war, as many as 750,000 Palestinian Arabs fled their homes in the newly created state as a result of many factors. Some of the Palestinian Arabs who fled did so to avoid the ongoing war or at the urging of Arab leaders, and expected to return after a quick and certain Arab victory over the new Jewish state. Other Palestinians were forced to flee by individuals or groups fighting for Israel." [3]

This lie will end only when the Zionist state will be ended

by the victorious Arab revolution. It will provide for the return of the Palestinian refugees and give the Jews living in the country equal civil and political rights but not the right to form another Zionist state in any part of the Palestinian workers state.

Down with the PA!

Down with the Zionist apartheid state!

Organize self-defense!

For a revolutionary Constituent Assembly of the workers and the poor Fellahin!

For a working-class revolutionary leadership!

For Red Democratic Palestine from the river to the sea!

For a workers' and the poor Fellahin government!

Long live the Arab revolution!

For a socialist federation of the Middle East!

References:

[1] Leon Trotsky Anti-Imperialist Struggle Is Key to Liberation An Interview with Mateo Fossa (September 1938), <https://www.marxists.org/archive/trotsky/1938/09/liberation.htm>

[2] Akhali Tskhovreba (New Life), a daily Bolshevik newspaper published in Tiflis from June 20 to July 14, 1906

[3] <https://www.adl.org/resources/glossary-terms/palestinian-refugees>

Rally on the 8th Anniversary of the Military Coup in Egypt in 2013

Report (with Photos and Videos) from a Rally in Vienna on 3 July 2021, Austrian Section of the RCIT

The Egyptian migrant community in Vienna organized a rally on 3rd July to commemorate the anniversary of the military coup in Egypt. Eight years ago, General Sisi carried out a coup d'état which resulted, in the following weeks, in the killing of thousands of people. The rally was addressed by Ibrahim Ali, the leader of the Egyptian migrant community in Austria.

Activists of the Austrian section of the RCIT attended the

rally. Our comrade Michael Pröbsting, International Secretary of the RCIT, delivered speeches in German and English language in which he strongly denounced the military dictatorship as well as the European governments which support General Sisi's tyrant regime.

See photos and video clips of Michael Pröbsting's speeches here: <https://www.thecommunists.net/rcit/rally-on-8th-anniversary-of-military-coup-in-egypt-3-7-2021/>



Pictures from the rally on the military coup in Egypt; on the left: Michael Pröbsting speaks (Vienna, 3.7.2021)

Israel: The new right-wing government as the same politics as the former one!

A statement of the Internationalist Socialist League (RCIT Section in Israel / Occupied Palestine), 21.06.2021

Last Tuesday, two days after the new right-wing government led by Bennett was formed, the new government permitted the yearly racist flags march in the 1967 occupied East Jerusalem. 5000 extreme right Zionist nationalists protected by the Zionist police marched through parts of Jerusalem's Old City, with the Zionist flag-waving march chanting racist slogans: "Death to the Arabs".

On the eve of the March Omer Barlev, the Minister of the Police (Minister of Public Security) of the Zionist Labor party, that in Israel is considered a left-wing party, stated: "The flag march will take place...Jerusalem is Israel's eternal capital. In a democracy, you may and it is important to demonstrate and hold marches as long as they follow the law, and the police decide."

In the real world, the Zionist Labor Party is very similar in nature to South Africa's Labor party that organized in 1922 the infamous Rand strike of the white mineworkers to pressure both mining firms and the state to back down from the policy of saving on labor costs by employing Blacks in positions that had been reserved for them. This behaviour also returned again in 1969 led by Allan Hendrickse. While formally it opposed the apartheid regime, it opposed the guerrilla struggle of Umkhonto We Sizwe and also opposed the call for international sanctions against South Africa. The party ruled the apartheid regime until 1992, winning 76 of the 80 seats until it was replaced by the National Party of F. W. de Klerk.

During the chauvinist Zionist orgy at least 33 Palestinians were injured in clashes in East Jerusalem and at least 17 Palestinians were arrested by Israeli forces, and dozens more were assaulted and forcibly removed from the Damascus Gate Plaza leading to the Old City.

Mansour Abbas, the leader of the Arab Islamist Raam party that is part of the new coalition, said on Tuesday that the march should have been canceled. He warned that it was "an attempt to ignite the region for political purposes", which begs the question what the hell is he doing in this government?

The Joint List, that most of its MKs have called on the police to protect the Palestinian citizens of Israel from the armed gangs instead of organizing self-defense squads, once again has shown that they are unable to learn the lesson about the nature of the Zionist Police and the Zionist State. The only thing they did was to appeal to the government to ban the march. As if the new government does not understand what it is doing.

Following the event, Yair Lapid the new Foreign Minister, and the alternative Prime Minister denounced the event saying: "That's not Judaism, and that's not being Israeli, and it is certainly not what our flag symbolizes" he wrote on Twitter. What a hypocrite! This statement is part of his job to try and cover up in other countries the real nature of the Zionist settler colonialist society.

In response to the racist event hundreds in the besieged enclave of Gaza rallied against the 'March of the Flags'. Palestinian fighters have been launching incendiary balloons which are basic devices intended to set fire to farmland and bush near the border with Gaza.

The Zionist air force retaliated with a series of air raids on the Gaza Strip for the second time since a shaky ceasefire ended in May after the 11-day war.

On Friday new clashes broke out between the Zionist Border Police and Muslim worshipers at the Al Aqsa's Haram Al-Sharif compound. While some youth threw stones, the Border Police used the so-called rubber bullets to oppress the struggle against the Zionist oppression.

Thus, the idiots of the village who believe that the new government led by Bennett whose political position is to the right of Netanyahu will be a different and better government had already their first test proving them wrong.

Down with the new right-wing government!

Down with the right-wing opposition led by Netanyahu!

Organize self-defense – no call for police protection!

The only solution is through the Arab Revolution!

For a free red Palestine from the river to the sea!

Publications of the RCIT in Arab Language

The image displays several Arabic-language publications from the RCIT. At the top left, a red banner features a yellow hammer and sickle symbol and a yellow star, with the text "البيان الشيوعي الثوري" (The Revolutionary Communist Manifesto) and "الثورة والثورة المضادة في العالم العربي: اختبار للثوريين" (The Revolution and the Counter-Revolution in the Arab World: A Test for the Revolutionaries). To the right is a poster for "ثورة" (Revolution) by AWRA, featuring a red star and the text "الثورة" and "REVOLUTION". Below these are two photographs: one of a woman in a keffiyeh and another of a man. At the bottom, there are more text-based elements, including "الثورة والثورة المضادة في العالم العربي: اختبار للثوريين" and "الثورة والثورة المضادة في العالم العربي: اختبار للثوريين".

Occupied Palestine: Criminal Negligence or a Planned Crime?

Yossi Schwartz, *Internationalist Socialist League (RCIT Section in Israel / Occupied Palestine)*, 21.06.2021

While we do not know yet what will be the side effects of the vaccines against Coronavirus and whether it is effective against another round of COVID 19, it is clear that these vaccines have been effective for now. Israel is proof of it. Yet even on this issue Zionist racism against the Palestinians has manifested for many months. Israel transported batches of the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine deep inside the West Bank, but they have only been distributed to Jewish settlers, and not the roughly 2.7 million Palestinians living in the West Bank and the 2 million Palestinians in Gaza who have to wait for weeks or months. *"Only 100,000 Palestinians from the West Bank who work in Israel in low-paid jobs were immunized by Israel. By May 1st, 2021, only 3.6% of Palestinians had received at least one dose, and less than 1% were fully vaccinated. The PA has received 271,000 doses for use in the West Bank to date, including 100,000 from China and 58,000 from Russia. Most of the remainder were AstraZeneca doses sent through COVAX. Israel also donated 5,000 Moderna doses and 200 Pfizer doses for Palestinian medical workers."* (1)

For the moment it seemed that the new government decided that it will provide the Palestinians with the necessary vaccines. Under the terms of a deal with the Palestinian Authority announced on Friday morning, Israel promised to give more than one million Pfizer doses to the PA. In return, Israel would receive later this year the same number of vaccines that were purchased by the PA.

But then it was revealed by Israel that these vaccines are soon to expire within 14 days which means that the vaccines will likely endanger the lives of many thousands of people who will be vaccinated by expired vaccines.

Those who defend the deal argue that based on the Israeli experience these vaccines can be administered to hundreds of thousands of Palestinians. But this false argument is based on willful ignorance. It is impossible to compare the medical infrastructure of Israel with the Palestinians' medical infrastructure.

By the end of 2020, the State of Israel, with a population of 9.3 million, had administered more COVID-19 vaccine doses than all countries aside from China, the US, and the UK. Moreover, Israel had administered almost 11.0 doses per 100 population, while the next highest rates were 3.5 (in Bahrain) and 1.4 (in the United Kingdom). All other countries had administered less than 1 dose per 100 population.

"A great number of factors contributed to this early success, and they can be divided into three major groups. The first one is a, and well-developed infrastructure for implementing prompt responses to large-scale national emergencies. The second one includes: the organizational, IT, and logistical capacities of Israel's community-based health care providers, the availability of a cadre of well-trained, salaried, community-based nurses who are directly employed by those providers, The third one includes: the mobilization of special government funding for vaccine purchase and distribution, and the ability as a rich state to buy a great number of vaccines relative to Israel's population. Within two weeks from December 20, 2020, to the end of December Israel was able to administer 150,000 doses per day." (2)

The situation of the Palestinians under the occupation and

the destruction of the health system by Israel is different.

"On June 10 2021 Israel's move to shut down a key healthcare body in the occupied territories will have "catastrophic consequences" for Palestinians in need of medical attention, global rights group Amnesty International warned. Israeli army forces raided the Palestinian Union of Health Workers Committee (UHC) headquarters in Ramallah on Wednesday, breaking down the door, confiscating computers and memory drives, and issuing a military order forcing the office to close for six months.

The UHC runs hospitals and health clinics for marginalized communities and has repeatedly been targeted by Israeli forces, Amnesty said. Employees have faced harassment and arrest for the health providers' alleged affiliation with the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, a political party with an armed wing. "Israel's shutdown of its headquarters will have major consequences for the provision of essential health services to thousands of Palestinians, a program for women's health that was at the headquarters has now stopped," Saleh Higazi, Amnesty's deputy director for the Middle East and North Africa, said in a statement.

He said "as the occupying power" Israel had "a clear obligation" under international law to protect the rights of all Palestinians – including their right to healthcare. "So far they have completely failed to fulfill this responsibility throughout the global pandemic, pursuing a discriminatory COVID-19 vaccination policy," Higazi said. "Israeli authorities must immediately rescind the shutdown order and put an end to the harassment of health workers. He said the targeting of UHC was part of a wider attack by Israel against Palestinian civil society organizations. "Instead of criminalizing organizations providing vital health services, the Israeli authorities should be ending their institutionalized discrimination and systematic oppression of Palestinians," Higazi said.

Amnesty said UHC has been at the forefront of the COVID-19 response in the occupied Palestinian Territories, raising awareness, offering public health guidance, and providing medical care to COVID-19 patients in its health facilities, as well as to hard-to-reach communities through mobile clinics. More than 310,000 Palestinians have contracted COVID-19 and the virus has killed 3,500 of them. The organization also leads local advocacy efforts to improve the Palestinian health system. Amnesty said this was not the first time that UHC and its staff have been targeted by Israeli forces. Its Jerusalem office was shut down by Israeli authorities in 2015. Its Ramallah office, which was shut down on Wednesday, was previously raided in October 2019 – when its finance director was arrested. In March two other members of staff were arrested." (3)

Thus, these vaccines under the actual circumstance are an empty gesture. This deal is denounced now by the Palestinians as a "political, health and moral scandal" of Israel and of the PA.

"But learning that the Israeli-supplied vaccines were about to expire, many Palestinians condemned the PA and accused it of "tampering" with the health of the Palestinian people. The vaccine exchange deal with the occupation authorities once again shows the lack of transparency in managing public affairs in general, and in managing the coronavirus pandemic in particular," the Palestinian Coalition for Accountability and Integrity (AMAN) said in a statement. "It is illogical that the first source of information in an important issue related to the health of Palestinian citizens is the occupation. It is the responsibility of the

Palestinian government, represented by the Ministry of Health, to announce the details of the deal before concluding it, to enhance the principle of transparency.” (4)

Under this pressure, the PA had to tell Israel that it rejected the deal. The PA Health Ministry had notified Israel that the vaccines must conform to all specifications and conditions of validity and safety. *“After medical and technical teams received and inspected the first batch, it was found that the doses did not conform to the technical specifications as previously agreed upon and that their expiry date was close.” (5)*

The question to ask is whether this is a case of criminal negligence on the part of the new Israeli government or an attempt to harm the health of thousands of Palestinians? In the best case, it is a case of willful blindness and a clumsy exercise in public relations for the benefit of the friends of the Zionist apartheid.

“Health Minister Nitzan Horowitz of the left Zionist party Meretz spoke with Al-Kaila on Friday and said the agreement will lower the COVID-19 numbers in the Palestinian Authority without reducing Israel’s stores of vaccines. Coronavirus does not recognize borders or differentiate between nations,” Horowitz said. “This important move is in the interest of all sides. I hope and believe this move will promote cooperation between Israel and its Palestinian neighbors in other areas, as well.” (6)

Nice but empty phrases, just music for the supporters of the Zionist apartheid!

While it is more likely that it is a case of crude criminal negligence or willful blindness, we should keep in mind that Israel has a poor record when it comes to the human rights of the Palestinians.

“Israel used biological weapons even before it was created on Arab soil in 1948 and ever since. The purpose, according to Ben Gurion, is genocide, and if not complete, the purpose is not to allow the dispossessed Palestinians to return to their homes.

POISONING ACRE WATER SUPPLY: In the wake of Haifa’s occupation on 23 April 1948 by the Zionists, under the nose of the British Mandate forces commanded by General Stockwell, a man still historically discredited for this failure, thousands converged on Acre, a nearby city, which was still Arab under the “protection” of the British forces.

Acre was to be the next Zionist target. The Zionists besieged the city from the land side and started showering the population with a hail of mortar bombs day and night. Famous for its historical walls, Acre could stand the siege for a long time. The city water supply comes from a nearby village, Kabri, about 10kms to the north, through an aqueduct. The Zionists injected typhoid in the aqueduct at some intermediate point which passes through Zionist settlements.

The story can now be told, thanks to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) files which have now become available, 50 years after the event. A series of reports, under the reference G59/1/GC, G3/82, sent by ICRC delegate de Meuron from 6 May to about 19 May 1948 describe the conditions of the city population, struck by a sudden typhoid epidemic, and the efforts to combat it.” (7)

Can we believe that the Zionists could poison the civil population in cold blood?

In Israel, a very famous poet Abba Kovner planned to poison millions of Germans after WWII as revenge for the Holocaust. He was one of the founders of a secret organization Nakam (revenge), also known as Dam Yisrael Noter (“the blood of Israel avenges”), with the acronym DIN meaning “judgment”. Two plans were formulated. Plan A was to kill

a large number of German citizens by poisoning the water supplies of Hamburg, Frankfurt, Munich, and Nuremberg. Nakam intended to kill 6 million Germans. Plan B was to kill SS prisoners held in Allied POW camps. In pursuit of Plan A, members of the group were infiltrated into the water and sewage plants in several cities. According to the New York Times some Zionists (among them Abba Kovner) planned to poison millions of Germans after WWII.

“Imagine a real-life version of “Inglorious Bastards,” Quentin Tarantino’s quixotic movie about Jewish avengers in World War II — but in this case involving a plot by a band of refugees to kill millions of Germans just after the war by poisoning their water supply. The plot, which targeted five major cities in retribution for the Holocaust, failed. So did the conspirators’ Plan B, which followed in mid-April 1946: to murder 12,000 captured SS officers — members of the very unit that enforced the Nazis’ reign of terror and ran the death camps — by lacing their bread rations with arsenic. The second scheme was not a complete failure, however. Led by 21-year-old Joseph Harmatz, a survivor of the Vilnius ghetto in Lithuania, the plotters sickened more than 2,200 German prisoners, inducing vomiting and other symptoms of cholera. Their weapons were 3,000 loaves of black bread, which had been painted with a mixture of arsenic and glue at a bakery that had been infiltrated by one of the groups. Mr. Harmatz, who died at 91 on Sept. 22 at his home in Tel Aviv, never publicly expressed remorse for his role in either conspiracy. But later on, his son Ronel said on Tuesday, he did acknowledge privately, that he was grateful that the mass water-poisoning plot was abandoned after one of his collaborators was arrested.” (8)

That same Abba Kovner in the 1948 war was an educational officer in the Givati Brigade where he became known for his “battle pages”, headed “Death to the invaders!”, that called for revenge for the Holocaust and referred to the Egyptian enemy as vipers and dogs. The same Givati Brigades were involved in many major operations to uproot and cleanse the indigenous Palestinians. The mass expulsion, in some cases, was accompanied by massacres and rapes.

But whether this is a case of criminal negligence or a planned massive crime, it is a case of glaring racism of the settler colonialist’s imperialist state. Very similar to the way the European settler colonialists treated the native Americans and the Blacks in North America. No wonder the American ruling class has such a political sympathy for Israel!

Down with Racist Zionism!

Down with the new right-wing government that is no better than the government of Netanyahu!

For a free red Palestine from the river to the sea!

Footnotes

- 1) <https://www.timesofisrael.com/israel-may-toss-millions-of-vaccines-why-wont-it-give-them-to-the-pa-instead/>
- 2) <https://ijhpr.biomedcentral.com/track/pdf/10.1186/s13584-021-00440-6.pdf>
- 3) <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/6/10/amnesty-raises-alarm-as-israel-shuts-palestinian-health-provider>
- 4) <https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/palestinians-call-for-probe-into-vaccine-scandal-671468>
- 5) <https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/vaccine-exchange-deal-between-israel-and-pa-has-been-announced-671413>
- 6) <https://www.jpost.com/breaking-news/vaccine-exchange-deal-between-israel-and-pa-has-been-announced-671413>
- 7) <https://electronicintifada.net/content/traces-poison/4588>
- 8) <https://www.nytimes.com/2016/09/30/world/europe/joseph-harmatz-dead.html>

What the RCIT Stands for

The *Revolutionary Communist International Tendency* (RCIT) is a fighting organisation for the liberation of the working class and all oppressed. It has national sections in various countries. The working class is the class of all those (and their families) who are forced to sell their labour power as wage earners to the capitalists. The RCIT stands on the theory and practice of the revolutionary workers' movement associated with the names of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Trotsky.

Capitalism endangers our lives and the future of humanity. Unemployment, war, environmental disasters, hunger, exploitation, are part of everyday life under capitalism as are the national oppression of migrants and nations and the oppression of women, young people and homosexuals. Therefore, we want to eliminate capitalism.

The liberation of the working class and all oppressed is possible only in a classless society without exploitation and oppression. Such a society can only be established internationally.

Therefore, the RCIT is fighting for a socialist revolution at home and around the world.

This revolution must be carried out and led by the working class, for she is the only class that has nothing to lose but their chains.

The revolution can not proceed peacefully because never before has a ruling class voluntarily surrendered their power. The road to liberation includes necessarily the armed rebellion and civil war against the capitalists.

The RCIT is fighting for the establishment of workers' and peasant republics, where the oppressed organize themselves in rank and file meetings in factories, neighbourhoods and schools – in councils. These councils elect and control the government and all other authorities and can always replace them.

Real socialism and communism has nothing to do with the so-called "real existing socialism" in the Soviet Union, China, Cuba or Eastern Europe. In these countries, a bureaucracy dominated and oppressed the proletariat.

The RCIT supports all efforts to improve the living conditions of workers and the oppressed. We combine this with a perspective of the overthrow of capitalism.

We work inside the trade unions and advocate class struggle, socialism and workers' democracy. But trade unions and social democracy are controlled by a bureaucracy. This bureaucracy is a layer which is connected with the state and capital via jobs and privileges. It is far from the interests and

living circumstances of the members. This bureaucracy's basis rests mainly on the top, privileged layers of the working class - the workers' aristocracy. The struggle for the liberation of the working class must be based on the broad mass of the proletariat rather than their upper strata.

The RCIT strives for unity in action with other organizations. However, we are aware that the policy of social democracy and the pseudo-revolutionary groups is dangerous and they ultimately represent an obstacle to the emancipation of the working class.

We fight for the expropriation of the big land owners as well as for the nationalisation of the land and its distribution to the poor and landless peasants. We fight for the independent organisation of the rural workers.

We support national liberation movements against oppression. We also support the anti-imperialist struggles of oppressed peoples against the great powers. Within these movements we advocate a revolutionary leadership as an alternative to nationalist or reformist forces.

In a war between imperialist states (e.g. U.S., China, EU, Russia, Japan) we take a revolutionary defeatist position, i.e. we don't support neither side and advocate the transformation of the war into a civil war against the ruling class. In a war between an imperialist power (or its stooge) and a semi-colonial country we stand for the defeat of the former and the victory of the oppressed country.

The struggle against national and social oppression (women, youth, sexual minorities etc.) must be led by the working class. We fight for revolutionary movements of the oppressed (women, youth, migrants etc.) based on the working class. We oppose the leadership of petty-bourgeois forces (feminism, nationalism, Islamism etc.) and strive to replace them by a revolutionary communist leadership.

Only with a revolutionary party fighting as its leadership can the working class win. The construction of such a party and the conduct of a successful revolution as it was demonstrated by the Bolsheviks under Lenin and Trotsky in Russia are a model for the revolutionary parties and revolutions also in the 21 Century.

For new, revolutionary workers' parties in all countries! For a 5th Workers International on a revolutionary program! Join the RCIT!

No future without socialism!

No socialism without a revolution!

No revolution without a revolutionary party!

